

SECTION 9.0

SIGNIFICANT IRREVERSIBLE ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES

CEQA Section 15126.2(c) requires the evaluation of the “uses of nonrenewable resources during the initial and continued phases of the project may be irreversible since a large commitment of such resources makes removal or non-use thereafter unlikely. Primary impacts and, particularly, secondary impacts (such as highway improvement which provides access to a previously inaccessible area) generally commit future generations to similar uses. Also irreversible damage can result from environmental accidents associated with the project. Irretrievable commitments of resources should be evaluated to assure that such current consumption is justified.”

FSEIR #01-01 states that the predominant irreversible environmental change would be continuation of planned commitment of land resources to urban/developed uses. This would constitute a permanent change. Once construction occurs, reversal of the land to its original condition is nearly impossible. Other permanent changes would include more traffic and hence noise, permanent landform alteration, increased human presence in the area and the transition from a rural to residential community. Finally, FSEIR #01-01 states that irreversible commitments of energy resources would occur with build-out of EastLake III. These resources would include electricity, natural gas and building materials.

The proposed project would irreversibly alter the previously graded vacant site to a residential use for the foreseeable future. Similar irreversible changes as outlined in FSEIR #01-01 would occur through development of the proposed project. Non-renewable energy resources including electricity, natural gas, potable water and building materials would be utilized during development and operation of the housing facility.